

CLAIMS

We claim:

1. A method of communicating with a managed object, comprising:
 - (a) dynamically generating an interpretable format from a meta data
5 description for a function of said object;
 - (b) interpreting an operator input command according to said format; and
 - (c) invoking an appropriate action on said managed object in response to said interpretation.
- 10 2. The method of claim 1, further comprising translating a response received from said managed object into said interpretable format.
3. The method of claim 1, wherein said meta data description for a function of said object includes a uniform resource locator assigned to said function.
4. The method of claim 3, wherein said meta data describes one or more internal commands associated with said function.
- 15 5. The method of claim 1, wherein the step of dynamically generating an interpretable format from a meta data description includes building a data structure to inform an operator of a required format for communication with said managed object.
- 20 6. The method of claim 1, further comprising said interpretable format dynamically interpreting response data.

7. The method of claim 1, wherein the step of dynamically generating an interpretable format from a meta data description for a function of said object includes an interface selected from a group consisting of: a command line interface, and a graphical user interface.
- 5 8. A computer system with a managed object comprising:
a manager adapted to dynamically generate an interpretable format from a meta data description for said managed object; and
an interpreter adapted to translate an input command according to said interpretable format, wherein an action is invoked on said managed object in response to
10 said translation.
9. The system of claim 8, wherein a meta data description for a function of said object includes a uniform resource locator assigned to said function.
10. The system of claim 9, wherein said meta data description includes one or more internal commands associated with said function.
- 15 11. The system of claim 8, wherein said manager builds a data structure to inform an operator of a required format for communication with said managed object.
12. The system of claim 8, further comprising a response manager to dynamically interpret response data.
13. The system of claim 8, wherein said manager is selected from a group consisting
20 of: a command line interface, and a graphical user interface.
14. An article comprising:

a computer-readable signal-bearing medium;
means in the medium for dynamically generating an interpretable format from a meta data description associated with a function of a managed object;
means in the medium for interpreting an operator input command based upon said interpretable format; and
means in the medium for invoking an action of said managed object responsive to said interpretation.

15. The article of claim 14, wherein the medium is selected from the group of: a recordable data storage medium and a modulated carrier signal.

16. The article of claim 14, wherein said meta data description includes a uniform resource locator assigned to said function.

17. The article of claim 14, wherein said meta data describes one or more internal commands associated with said function.

18. The article of claim 14, wherein said means for dynamically generating an interpretable format from a meta data description includes a data structure of a required format for communication with said managed object.

19. The article of claim 14, wherein said means for interpreting an operator input command dynamically translates response data.

20. The article of claim 14, wherein said means in the medium for dynamically generating an interpretable format from a meta data description associated with a function of a managed object is selected from a group consisting of: a command line interface, and a graphical user interface.